Landing System at Runway 28, the operations are resumed on Runway 10 which is equipped with Cat-I Instrument Landing System.

(d) No such protest has been received in this regard.

Declaration of Srinagar Airport as an International Airport

455. SHRI SHARIEF-UD-DIN SHARIQ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the proposal of declaring Srinagar (J&K) Airport as International Airport, which has been an old demand of the people and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the details of the progress of work at Jammu Airport and by when it is likely to be completed;

(c) the reasons for non-availability of all weather landing and take off facilities at Jammu and Srinagar Airports and when the equipments for the same purpose will be installed on these Airports; and

(d) whether the chartered flights will be allowed to these places if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) At present there is no proposal to declare Srinagar airport as international airport.

(b) the work for the expansion and modification of the Terminal Building and expansion of Apron at Jammu airport has been awarded and is likely to be completed by March, 2001.

(c) All weather operational facilities are already available at Srinagar airport. Jammu airport has Cat-I Instrument Landing System (ILS) facility. It is proposed to also provide runway edge lights, CAT-II ILS and approach lighting system for all weather operations in the runway extension project for the purpose, the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir is in the process of acquiring 54.68 acres of land.

(d) Chartered flights are not permitted to Jammu and Srinagar

airport becuase of security reasons and non-availability of customs and immigration facilities.

International Airport at Devanahalli, Bangalore

456. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared the International Airport Project at Devanahalli, near Bangalore;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to select co-investors and to start the above project;

(c) what are the facilities to be provided by the State Government;

(d) whether the existing HAL Airport will be closed for civilian operations after the opening of the proposed International Airport;

(e) if so, the amount so far spent on the exising HAL Airport for providing facilities to the passengers; and

(f) by when the proposed International Airport will become a reality?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The setting up of a new airport of international standards for Bangalore has been approved in principle.

(b) and (c) The project is proposed to be implemented through a Joint Venture Company (JVC) consisting of AAI, Karnataka State Investment and Industrial Development Corporation limited (KSIIDC) and a strategic partner. KSIIDC and AAI intend to have toghether not less than 26% equity holding in the proposed JVC. The balance 74% equity will be contributed by the selected private Joint Venture Partner.

(d) No decision has been taken in this regard.

(e) AAI has spent Rs. 21.93 crores for providing various facilities.

(f) Since the project is at preliminary stage, no time frame can be given at present.